Madras Vigilance Association and the Sri Sadana would be compelled to reduce the number of inmates in the Association's Home to almost half the present strength;

(*b*) whether the Government have at any time considered the necessity to change the basis on which the grants are made to the Madras Vigilance Association so that the Association may continue its good work unhampered by fear of financial commitments; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose to give some interim relief to make up the deficit pending consideration of any fresh basis for the grants made?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" (*a*) A representation has been received from the President of the Association that the latter is facing a financial crisis.

" (*b*) The question whether it is necessary to increase the grant paid by Government to the Madras Vigilance Association towards the maintenance charges of the inmates of the Sri Sadana is under the consideration of Government.

" (*c*) The matter is under consideration."

MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—" May I know whether the grant will be increased? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" That is the matter which is being considered."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" A large number of inmates has to be maintained and the association cannot continue to maintain them unless the grant is increased. Will the Hon. Minister expedite orders? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" That will be done as quickly as possible."

Madras Fire Service.

* 131 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether rules governing the Madras Fire Service have been made and if so, what they are;

(*b*) whether all the present incumbents satisfy the rules framed;

(*c*) whether arrangements are made to train men in lower ranks to qualify themselves for higher posts;

(*d*) where the Fire Stations are located in the province and the strength of staff employed in each; and

(*e*) whether the Government have under consideration the question of providing Fire Service to all the municipalities and major panchayats in the Province?

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (*a*) The Madras Fire Services was governed by a set of rules called the Madras Fire Services Rules issued under section 10 (1) of the A.R.P. Services Ordinance, 1941 (Ordinance No. IV of 1941). With the repealing of the above Ordinance wholly in January 1946, the Madras Fire Services Rules issued thereunder have ceased to be operative. Now that the Fire Service has come to stay as a permanent feature of the Provincial Government's administration, a separate set of statutory service rules to govern it under the provisions of the Government of India Act, 1935, is under preparation.

" (*b*) Does not arise in view of the answer to (*a*) above.

" (*c*) Yes.

" (*d*) A statement [a] giving the information required is placed on the table of the House.

" (*e*) The present policy is to establish fire stations only in all the municipal towns in the Province."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" In the event of the Fire Services Rules being framed and if there are any officers who do not satisfy those rules, will their services be terminated? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Evidently so, Sir."

MR. K. O. ANTONI :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister has received any representation from the Fire Services men and they have been dealt with? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" No, Sir, we are not aware of it. If there is any representation received, I shall certainly go into the matter."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether there is any proposal to retrench the personnel in the Fire Services and any representation has been received concerning that matter? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" No, Sir, there is no proposal to retrench."

Retired officials re-employed during the war.

* 132 *Q.*—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of superannuated retired officials re-employed during the war by the Advisers' Government ;

(*b*) the number of superannuated retired officials re-employed since the Congress Government took office ;

(*c*) how many of these two sets of officials have since retired and how many still continue in office ;

(*d*) the need for continuing them in office while a number of war-returned men and educated young men are awaiting their turn to be employed in Government service ;

[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 602–604 infra.